

# Letters

## C'est la vie

As a foreign student from France, I would like to respond to John Tapogna's attack (ODE May 28) against the Norwegian Constitution Day Celebration.

Since my arrival at the University of Oregon, I have been pleasantly surprised by the large number of foreign students.

The University is able to play a positive role in international relations by promoting tolerance and peace through cultural exchange. This service is particularly well rendered thanks to the efforts of the International Services Department.

The Norwegian community represents a large percentage of the University's foreign students.

On May 17 all of them wished to organize a celebration of the Norwegian Constitution Day, and a committee of five people was formed.

The costs of the activities planned were calculated at \$15 per person. Realizing that this represents a considerable expense for most students, the Norwegian committee decided to charge non-Norwegians only \$7.50.

And so the Norwegian community followed the example of their American hosts: promote peace and international understanding by trying to attract a large group in order to share the joy of their celebration and to have a good time.

They were successful in that nearly 40% of those present were not Norwegian.

Regarding the evening at Guido's the public was invited to attend for the modest sum of \$2 if they had not taken part in the rest of the day.

In that sense, they did their best to culturally diversify the University. Unfortunately, John, not all of the people can be happy all of the time; c'est la vie!

Marc Alia  
French GTF

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## 'Heroes'

It is quite disturbing to watch the current Iran-Contra hearings and see those involved try to present themselves as patriotic heroes. They would have us believe that everything they have done is in the best interest of our country, even if Congress, and the people represented by Congress, can't appreciate it.

Regardless of one's point of view, it is obvious that whether or not the United States should fund the Contras is a serious moral, political question. In our democratic system, the place to debate and decide upon such issues is in the forum of Congress.

By sneaking around laws passed by Congress, those involved in the scandal have enacted their own foreign policy in opposition to the stated will of the American people. How can these people who

have grossly disrupted the American democratic process call themselves American heroes?

Ken Loders  
English

## Parking spot

This letter is in response to the story on towed cars (May 20).

Do you people know what "at all times" means, or the little guy in a wheelchair with blue background?

Well, I'm handicapped and I do. You see, I have one of those spots. I admit I'm guilty of towing a few cars. I've also met

some very rude people who've parked in my spot.

You/they don't even think about why that sign is there.

A few years ago I didn't have to have a spot like this. Now I have pieces of bone floating

around in my knee.

Please, either respect the signs or, like people have said, TOW IT.

Judi Wetzell  
Eugene

## Letters Policy

The Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to 250 words, typed, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned in. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style. Letters to the editor should be turned into the Emerald office, Suite 300, EMU.

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